



EVERY TUESDAY

# CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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## GIANTS UNDER SAIL

*Will the Oldtime Grain Ships Go to Sea Again?*

It is a grand sight to see the Queen Elizabeth or the Queen Mary come proudly up the Solent; but since 1939 few have had the thrill of seeing from our coasts the approach of a great ship under sail, moving majestically before the breeze.

In the days before the war some fifteen of these old sailing giants engaged in a yearly "race" from Australia, laden with grain. What has happened to these stately oldtime vessels? And will they sail the wide oceans once again?

## An African Puppet Show

KUMASI, chief town of Ashanti in the Gold Coast, has a puppet theatre. It was opened last December, and it had been worked for and eagerly anticipated by the pupils of the Kumasi Presbyterian Senior School.

The rhythmic resonance of the drums lent a false air of tradition to a brand-new entertainment.

Kumasi was seeing its first marionette show!

The boys, working under the supervision of their art master, Mr Obuobisa, had themselves built the theatre, painted the scenery on the bark of the Kyenkyen tree, and learned to manipulate the puppets.

Stephen Apaw, sixteen years old, proved himself an excellent craftsman; he carved the marionettes.

The school choir and drums formed the musical accompaniment, and others proved that they were good actors, whether the part was "sympathetic" or "villainous."

We have no notices to quote, but we feel that the title of the first presentation, "Blood Money," had an appeal which was sufficient in itself.

## TRICKS OF THE FILM TRADE

MANY of the wonderful scientific inventions during the war have now found their way into the film studios, for use in all manner of ways. For example, FIDO which cleared fogs from landing-grounds is being used to disperse fog in American exterior scenes, and DDT for keeping insects away from the vast outdoor sets, while a "duck" is used for amphibious shots.

An American cameraman who is employed by Columbia Pictures, Ltd, has invented a new way of giving that shimmering effect to "ghosts" and the like: An electric heater is placed beneath the camera lens, so that warm air masses ascending from the heater disturb the atmosphere and thus give a tremulous appearance to everything within camera range. The effect will be similar to that seen on hot summer days, when the intense heat reflected from the roads makes them appear to wobble.

Lying in Goole harbour is one of them, the square-rigged Archibald Russell, now used as a food store.

The Archibald Russell came into Goole at the end of 1939 after a long voyage with grain from Australia. Captain Williams, her caretaker, says that her hull is sound and seaworthy, but her top masts and all her yards have been sent down from aloft. Her four main masts stand erect waiting for the sails to take her to sea.

There are fewer of these proud ocean-going sailing ships than there were when the war started. Out of the fifteen which then raced out to Australia and back three are known to have been lost, three are now at Mariehamn in Finland under the watchful care of the famous Captain Erikson, and five are scattered in Continental harbours.

### Service During the War

Will they ever go to sea again? Captain Erikson is reported to be refitting his ships as grain carriers from Australia. But many experts believe that the day of sailing ships is finally done. The only two now sailing the oceans are owned by South Africa and New Zealand companies. The veteran Lanhill is trading between South Africa and Australia, as she did all through the war years.

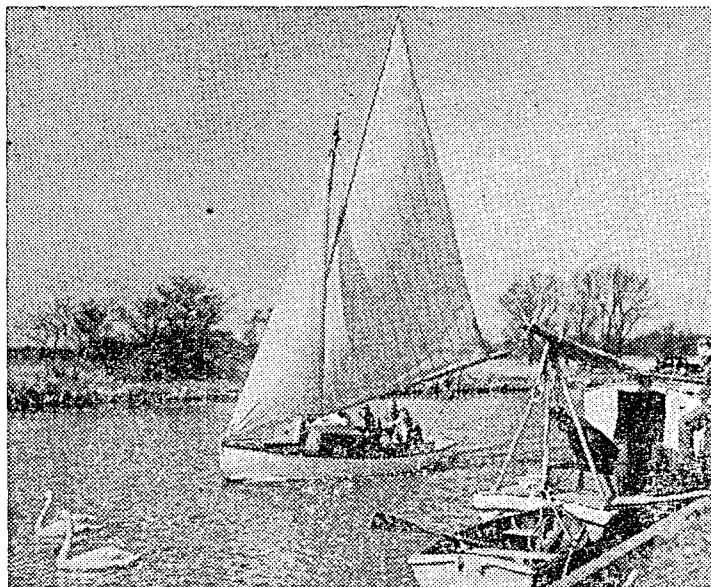
Fifty-three years old, this wonderful ship battled round Cape Horn with over 55,000 tons of cargo in the service of the Allies, often with her decks awash and her equipment washed away. But she always arrived with her cargo intact.

New Zealand sails the Pamiir, following its capture as a Finnish ship in 1941. She sails between New Zealand and San Francisco carrying wool, tallow, and grain. One voyage in 1945 showed a credit balance of £30,000!

Some of the famous old ships—the Olivebank, the Killoran, and the Penang—were sunk by mines or enemy vessels. The Penang had got as far as Ireland in the long voyage from Australia in 1940 when a German torpedo sunk her.

Forty years ago over seven hundred of these great sailing vessels were using our harbours. Today there are only eleven such ships left in the world. But if the gallant Captain Erikson of Finland has his way we may yet see the noble sight of a great ship in full sail going down the English Channel, a reminder of the spacious days of the sea.

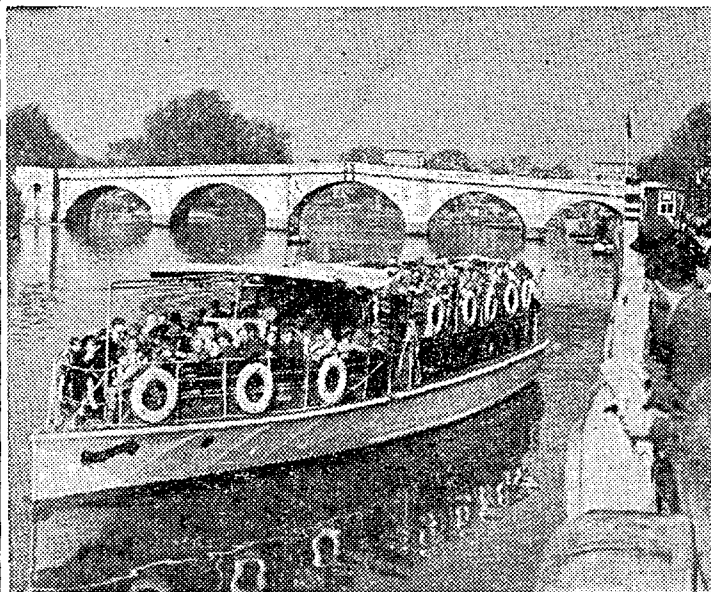
## CRUISING DAYS



Swans lead the way on the Norfolk Broads



All Aboard the Skylark at Southend-on-Sea



Bound for Hampton Court from Richmond on the Thames

The joys of sailing and boating on lake, sea, and river are back. The peaceful waters of the Norfolk Broads call many keen yachtsmen. Londoners enjoy sea-trips in the traditional manner at Southend, while others prefer the quieter beauties of Father Thames.

## The Bell Back From the Battlefronts

THE railway bell pealed insistently; the station-master checked with his watch, a signal dropped, and a long troop train pulled into the platform at Seymour, the big junction 60 miles from Melbourne, Victoria. The carriage doors flew open and out spilled a laughing horde of soldiers with slouch hats aslant, and new khaki uniforms.

It was 1940. The troops were Sixth Division Diggers on their way back to camp after final leave. They were in high spirits. They streamed into the dining rooms, joked with the railway staff. For ten minutes the station was loud with their cheerful good humour. Then a whistle blew. Steam from the engine hissed a warning. The khaki mass made a rush for the train. They were gone again. But they did not go empty-handed. From one carriage window that framed broad grins and waving arms came a loud peal. Someone had "borrowed" the station bell.

### Who "Borrowed" It?

The Railway Department wrote it off as a total loss. But it turned up recently. A soldier walked into a newspaper office in Brisbane, deposited the Seymour bell on the editor's desk, and told how it was smuggled aboard ship when the Sixth Division left Australia.

That bell travelled from desert camp to desert camp, went to Greece, and came back to Alexandria. Then in 1942 it came home with the Sixth Division to Australia. After that the soldier was a bit hazy about its history. It was in New Guinea for a while, did duty at mealtimes in a sergeants' mess, and finally was brought south with a detachment of troops headed for discharge. "One of my coppers let me have it for luck," the soldier told the Brisbane editor. But still nobody knows who "borrowed" it six years ago before he went off to war; perhaps, unlike the bell, he never came back.

## THE BISHOP & THE CHILDREN

Here is a postscript to our notes last week on Bishops Without Palaces.

THE Bishop of Southwark's official residence, Bishop's House, Kennington, has for some time been used as a nursery for children, about 80 of whom are cared for there each day. But the Bishop has decided, now that he has just moved in, that they shall still occupy the same rooms.

He knows how serious is the shortage of accommodation for nursery schools, and is happy to let the children remain, his one regret being that his numerous duties will not allow him much time to join with them in their play.



## TAKING OVER FROM ITALY Defending the Empire IN AFRICA

WHEN Italy entered the World War she ruled over an area of about one and a quarter million square miles in Africa. She has lost it all, and one of the chief problems to be settled at the approaching Peace Conference is who is to be responsible for these territories and their peoples.

The future of Abyssinia has already been settled, its 350,000 square miles having been restored to its Emperor, Haile Selassie, but that of the Italian colonies of Somaliland to its south and Eritrea, flanking the Red Sea to its north, awaits decision.

The most important colony, however, is Libya, stretching for some 700,000 square miles from Tunis and other French colonies to Egypt and Sudan. Italy ruled Libya as four provinces, with its chief capital at Tripoli, the seaport of Tripolitania, which has been famous since the days of Ancient Rome. This and the ports of Benghazi and Derna for the eastern area, often called Cyrenaica, give Libya an important position on the Mediterranean.

The country has an Arab population of some 800,000 and was under Turkish rule until 1911 when Italy conquered it and sent thousands of colonists to develop not only the oases along the coast but the cornlands of the interior. For Tripolitania is a wildly romantic territory, very

fertile in places, and producing dates, olives, oranges, and lemons in great abundance, as well as cereals and vegetables. Where the province extends towards Fezzan it is mainly desert country, and oases form the halting points of the vast caravan trade which still treks the age-old routes southward from Benghazi and Tripoli. These caravans carry goods for barter in the interior; they also bring to the coast such things as ivory, skins, ostrich feathers, and wool for export. The principal industries along the coast are tunny-fishing and sponge-fishing.

Who are to take the place of the Italians?

There was general agreement at a recent meeting of the Foreign Ministers of America, Britain, Russia and France that it is on the United Nations as a whole that should rest the responsibility for the former Italian colonies — until their peoples are in a position to govern themselves. As most of the inhabitants are Arabs the new Arab League will doubtless support this policy.

## Caroline Chisholm's Great Work

AUSTRALIA'S Prime Minister, Mr Chifley, has invited suitable young Britons to emigrate to his country. In the first year, he has said, Australia wants 70,000 British emigrants, all young and strong. Their fares will be paid either by Australia or Britain, and they will be found jobs.

Today's arrangements for emigrants are very different from what they were a hundred years ago. A correspondent has recorded in *The Times* that, in those far-off days, migration to Australia was "a muddle of mismanagement and misery," and he tells of the grand work done by Caroline Chisholm, the wife of a captain in the East India Company's service.

By 1846 Caroline had found places in Australia for 11,000

British emigrants, and on April 14 of that year she sailed from Sydney to London to organise arrangements for the welfare of the people, especially the women and children, who were to make new homes at the other end of the world. She saw to it that the emigrants were not swindled or ill-treated by the ship-owners and sea captains, and, later, she ran her own vessels between England and Australia.

Those emigrants of a hundred years ago owed much to the untiring labours of great-hearted Caroline Chisholm, and it is fitting that her name and work should be recalled in a more enlightened age when Britons are being invited to emigrate to Australia under really favourable conditions.

## OUR FRIENDS THE CZECHS

BRITISH friends of the gallant Czech people have organised a celebration in London on May 7 to honour the first anniversary of freedom regained.

It was on the night of Friday, May 4, 1945, that the population of Prague assembled in the centre of the city and began to tear down the hated German inscriptions from their streets and shops.

Then the commander of the secret patriot army gave the word. The first Czech national flags appeared in the Square of Good Saint Wenceslas, then they broke into tricoloured defiance all over the town. The Battle of Prague began.

It was hard fighting, and the brave patriots, of whom 5000 were killed before the short struggle ended, did not realise

that the Red Army was on its way to the rescue. But at dawn on May 9 Marshal Koniev's tanks appeared, and later in the day the Czech National Council announced the liberation of Prague to the exiled President Benes and his Government, and invited them home again.

That was 12 months ago, and the British-Czechoslovak Friendship League has organised this happy anniversary celebration. This League has a pleasant London home in Palace Gate, Bayswater, with fine club-rooms, and there are a score of branches in other parts of the country.

The League's aims are to foster and cement friendship between the two countries by means of education, art, music, science, sport, and all cultural activities.

ONE of the chief tasks of our Empire leaders who have met in London is that of settling a policy for the defence of the British Commonwealth. In this age of atomic weapons the problem of defence must be viewed in a new light, and military experts have been busy preparing their plans for consideration by the Empire's Prime Ministers.

The British Commonwealth and Empire is far-flung, and defence must be organised as a whole, and not in separate parts. Her resources and her manpower must be so allocated that she can defend herself against all eventualities. Our own country is, and always will be, the pivot or mainspring in any system of Commonwealth defence.

It may be suggested that it is the job of the Security Council of Uno to provide safeguards on a world basis against any further hostilities. That is perfectly true. But, in the meantime, the British Commonwealth must put her own house in order, by careful planning and organisation, so that she can present to the world, through the Security Council of Uno, a well-considered arrangement for protecting her territories, a step which should go a long way to safeguard world peace.

## BE CONFIDENT

"A WAY with pessimists and dismal jimmies." So said Field-Marshal Montgomery to the men of the Rhine Army before he returned to England to take up his new duties as Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

"Today," the Field-Marshal told his men, "some things may not be altogether exactly as we would like them. There are a few clouds about. At present they are no bigger than a man's hand. They may clear away, or they may bank up and be followed by rain. We must have complete confidence in our leaders. They will see that your umbrellas are in good shape when it begins to rain."

## Two Friends of Youth

WITH the passing of the Dean of Westminster and of Mr J. L. Paton, former High Master of Manchester Grammar School, the youth of this country have lost two friends who ever had their best interests at heart.

The Right Revd Paul de Labilliere, who gave all his life to the service of the Church, made himself a truly loved figure at the Abbey during the agony of the war years. He will long be remembered there, and he will be remembered, too, for his unswerving support of the Empire Youth Sunday movement.

Mr John Paton, on the other hand, though he was the son of a parson, devoted his long life to teaching. He was an inspiring teacher, a great headmaster who really understood boys and was happiest in their company; and the CN recalls with pride that he was more than once a contributor to these columns and ever a friend.

## WORLD NEWS REEL

**FIRST PRIZE, LONDON.** To encourage good relations between Britain and America, a week-end in London is being offered as the prize in an essay competition sponsored by the English-Speaking Union, the US radio station at Syracuse, New York, and the BBC.

It has been recommended by the US Education Mission to Japan that the Japanese method of writing, based on the use of Chinese characters, should be replaced with a phonetic system based on the Roman alphabet.

**India is to be represented in the Victory parade in London on June 8 by 600 members of the Indian army.**

**ARGENTINE EXPRESS.** Air Vice-Marshal Bennett recently flew the British Airways liner Starland from London to Buenos Aires in 29 hours 5 minutes.

During recent floods of the River Segura, in South-Eastern Spain, 8000 people were rescued by several hundred Spanish sailors in rowing boats.

**Mass radiography for testing health is to be introduced into Nigeria by Miss Margaret V. Ray, who has worked on this technique in Leicester.**

**PINK DAFFODILS.** Mr C. E. Radcliff of Hobart, Tasmania, has been awarded the Peter Barr Memorial Cup by the Royal Horticultural Society for his work in the development of daffodils with pink cups.

A private collector in New York has bought the Manley family copy of the first folio of Shakespeare, containing all his plays except *Pericles*, for £12,500. This cost £1 in 1623, seven years after Shakespeare's death.

**Two streets in Prague, Czechoslovakia, are to be renamed after Winston Churchill and Field-Marshal Montgomery.**

The US Military Government have recovered the world-famous Blue Mauritius stamp which disappeared after being evacuated for safety from the Philatelic Museum in Berlin.

**GREAT HELP.** From October 1, 1941, to March 31, 1946, Russia was supplied with military supplies (total value of about £308,000,000) from the US and Canada. All this was under Lease-Lend. Also, £120,000,000 worth of raw materials and foodstuffs were sent from Great Britain to the USSR.

## HOME NEWS REEL

**BRAVO, TOTTENHAM!** For three months in Tottenham, London, there have been no accidents to child cyclists. This is assumed to be the result of a local road safety campaign for schoolchildren.

An appeal to all gardeners and allotment-holders to grow more potatoes this year as a substitute for bread has been made by the Minister of Agriculture.

**Lieut-Colonel J. G. Wordsworth, great-great-grandson of the poet, is to look after 18,000 acres of Lakeland scenery on behalf of the National Trust from headquarters at Hunting-style, Grasmere. He will also take care of Dove Cottage, Grasmere, where Wordsworth lived.**

**WHAT, NO U-BOATS?** During the many trans-Atlantic voyages made by the Queen Mary and the Queen Elizabeth as troopships, neither vessel ever sighted a submarine, it was stated at the Cunard-White Star Company's 69th meeting.

The Rural District Council of Caistor, Lincolnshire, has paid twopence each for 129,817 rats destroyed since early in the war. This payment is to continue.

**What was at first thought to be a stray puppy, found wandering in a busy Brighton road, turned out to be a baby fox.**

**NO HARM IN ASKING.** When a woman inquirer was informed recently by the Green Line that the motor-coach fare from London to Tunbridge Wells was 3s 6d she asked: "Does that include meals?"

The Rural Council of Hartley Wintney, in Hampshire, have decided to instal homeless families in cottages used by their owners as week-end resorts.

**The Balaena, 15,000 tons, the first whale factory ship to carry aircraft, was launched recently at Belfast.**

**POCKET RADIO.** A radio loudspeaker the size of a pocket watch was one of the many miniature wireless components on display recently at an exhibition at Grosvenor House, London.

A visitor to Folkestone recently caught a 15-lb cod which provided a fish course for 21 people at the house where he stayed.

**A permanent Safety First centre is to be opened by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.**

A badger was recently found by some children hiding in an air-raid shelter in Middlesbrough.

**The first woman coroner to be appointed in England is Miss Mary Hollowell, aged 33, a solicitor of Needham Market, near Ipswich. She is to be deputy coroner for East Suffolk.**

## YOUTH NEWS REEL

**GUIDES IN CAMP.**—The increasing popularity of camping is shown by the fact that 51,700 Guides between the ages of 11 and 16 camped in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 1945, the highest figure for ten years.

Scout Stan Kitchen, of the 19th Acton Troop, broadcast as a ventriloquist twice recently in the Carroll Lewis Show. When he first took up ventriloquism seven years ago his father acted as his dummy.

**The Church Lads' Brigade Gallant Conduct Medal (2nd Class) has been awarded to William Henry Lennon, age 14, of the St Peter, Hersham, Company, for going to the rescue of a boy in danger of drowning in the River Thames.**

**S R S DUKE OF YORK.** His Majesty the King honoured the Guide Movement by launching the Sea Ranger ship Duke of York at Windsor recently. Both Princesses are enthusiastic Sea Rangers.

Forty British Guiders are attending this week for special training, entirely in French and German, at Waddow Hall, Clitheroe. The training is to increase their knowledge of Guiding in other countries and to enable them to take their Guides abroad or entertain foreign Guides in this country.

**Guide International Service Teams on relief work abroad now include one each from Australia and New Zealand who are working in Singapore.**



The Children's Newspaper, May 11, 1946

## War on the Midge Clan

SCOTLAND'S summer enemy is the midge, which, though only one and a quarter millimetres in length, can, with the assistance of thousands of its hateful little comrades, quite spoil a picnic in the Highlands by biting knees, hands, arms, and any other bare portions of human skin it can find.

But MacMidge is likely to be foiled this summer, for Scottish scientists have found that the substance called DMP (dimethylphthalate) is as effective against *Ceratopogon varius* (MacMidge's Sunday name) as it proved during the war against his big brother the mosquito.

As described some time ago in the C.N., a team of biologists working for the Department of Health for Scotland has been investigating the best methods of protecting holiday-makers from midges. The biologists went to midge-infested districts and made tests with DMP in the different forms of pastes, lotions, and emulsions. They found that an emulsion is what the midges least like.

So the biologists' DMP formula is to be published, and it is hoped that commercial firms will use it to manufacture an anti-midge emulsion for holiday-makers in Scotland this year.

## DESERT ISLAND

BETWEEN Tasmania and the Australian coast is Flinders Island, named after Matthew Flinders, a British sailor who sailed round Tasmania about 150 years ago. It is a desert island, with not even a Man Friday.

Recently, however, Mr D. A. Casey, an Australian archaeologist, went to investigate this island in the Bass Straits, and he discovered grinding stones used in crushing seeds for use as food—a clear indication that primitive people did live there once.

## MEALS FROM A LAKE

HANOVER, in Germany, has a lake a mile long, and the authorities decided that it had to be cleaned. This, of course, meant draining the lake, and the result was a catch of 8000 pounds of fish, largely pike and bream, most of which was distributed to the people of Hanover for food.

## THE ADMIRAL'S FLAG

ADMIRAL of the Fleet Lord Tovey has made one of London's Sea Scout troops very proud. During a visit to St Dunstan's Church, Stepney, he presented the St Dunstan's troop with the flag which he flew in the King George V when she sailed into the historic action against the Bismarck in May 1941.

This famous flag will be at home among Stepney Sea Scouts because their church has old and intimate links with the sea. The rector, the Revd D. H. Booth, sailed with Lord Tovey in the Orion in the Mediterranean, and like all his predecessors in this London church he knows something about ships and sailors, for one of the duties of the rector of St Dunstan's is to register the names of babies born on British ships on the high seas. This custom began as far back as 1568 and has continued ever since in this old church of the Port of London.

## The Bad Old Days

WHEN Charles II came home again in 1660 he may have made it a Merrie England, but it was a far from healthy London that welcomed him.

The population of London was then half a million, and Mr Keeling Scott, who has been examining the death rolls that were kept at that time, tells us that the yearly death rate was 35 in every thousand. We may note with pardonable pride that London's death rate is now only 11 per thousand for a population many times bigger.

Sixty-one causes of death were listed, among which "Ague with fever" contributed 3490, and "Consumption with Tissue" 3788. "Old Age" is put down for 1302 and Infant deaths for 1061. Fright caused two, and Gout only 11; and, oddest of all, "Rage" carried off five. In those days London had only two hospitals, St Thomas's and St Bartholomew's.

## A Young Archaeologist

LIONEL WALROND, a farmer aged 18 of Pitney, which is in the heart of Somerset, is a young man with a great interest in Roman Britain, and for the second time he discovered the remains of a Roman villa in his neighbourhood the other day. Somerset archaeologists have hailed this as one of the most remarkable relics of the Romans to be unearthed in recent times.

He made his discovery at an out-of-the-way place called Low Hammer, near the little old town of Langport. The mosaic floor which he uncovered is thought to be of the third or fourth century A.D.

## ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

THROUGH having learnt to throw a lasso when he was younger, Mr A. Stanworth, a dentist of Towyn, Merioneth, was able to save the life of a valuable bullock recently.

He was visiting a patient when he heard that the animal was floundering in a deep ditch and was likely to be drowned. Someone handed to him a rope, and he quickly succeeded in dropping a noose over the head of the beast, which was soon hauled to safety.



## In the Highlands

Two hardy Scots lads of the A.T.C. plan their route before setting out on a cross-country trek through the rugged mountains from the Glenmore Lodge. They wear thick clothes against the chilly winds of the heights.

## HOLIDAYS IN AFRICA!

MANY British Servicemen will have visited Mombasa during the war.

Mombasa, capital of the coastal province of Kenya, is the chief port on Africa's East coast. It has an attractive mixture of Arabic, Portuguese, and modern British architecture.

Kenya is now arranging to spend £30,000 on developing the town as a tourist resort. There is to be a luxury lido with a rooftop restaurant and a swimming bath on the sea front. A little farther along the coast, within a few yards from the sandy shore of the Indian Ocean, a new luxury hotel is being completed.

With the coming of cheap air travel more people from this country should be able to see the beauty spots of the Empire and spend their fortnight's holiday, not always at Brighton or other English seaside resorts, but at places much farther afield, such as Mombasa.

## COLOUR AT WORK

THE Newcastle firm of engineers, C. A. Parsons and Company, Limited, have adopted the slogan "Colour Provides Energy." All the walls of their workshops and the upper parts of machines are painted sunshine yellow, and the roofs are pale blue, giving the impression of a summer sky. The floors and lower parts of machines are green, while handles and dangerous objects are bright orange.

## Best British Film

HALF-A-MILLION voters in the National Film Award Ballot held by the Daily Mail recently chose *The Way to the Stars* as the best British film of the past six years. This film, with an Air Force theme, was made by Two Cities Films, Ltd.

As the leading British actor James Mason polled 84,905 votes, whilst Miss Margaret Lockwood was acclaimed the best actress.

The Ballot will have the effect of focusing public attention on British films, and of encouraging a very important British industry.

## For Blithe Bells

FOR two of its six centuries of existence the lofty tower of Holy Trinity, Blythburgh, one of the most famous and loveliest of the medieval churches of East Anglia, has been without bells.

During the Civil War, when metal was being seized for cannon balls, the people of Blythburgh, so runs the story, buried their bells by night and thus saved them. However, in the lean years of the 18th century they were forced to sell them.

For about a thousand years this church has been enriched by the labour of every age. Now, as their

contribution, the parishioners are trying to raise a thousand guineas in order to place a new peal of six bells in this fine, silent tower.

"It is a constructive gift for these disrupted times," says the appeal for funds, "because the creation of beauty widens the circle of life; and from the sweet sound of the bells themselves, to the ringers in the tower and to all in the fields who pause and listen, will come the message that the better things in life endure for generation to generation."



## In London's County Hall

Sitting in the Chairman's Chair in the Main Council Chamber, a young visitor at the County Hall, headquarters of the L.C.C., has items of interest pointed out to her by an official. Londoners may now again, as before the war, be shown over the building from which their county is governed.



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### The Camp Sing-Song

Blackheath and Charlton Rangers, in their first camp this summer at Cudham in Kent, awaken echoes in the woods with their merry songs.

## MERRIE ENGLAND AGAIN

YOUNG hikers and campers are bringing back music to the countryside where it has seldom been heard for many years. And when it is good, tuneful music, harmoniously rendered, it is welcome, for music and high-spirited youth and the countryside go well together.

Of course, it is not the rural music of ancient times, nor that of which Shakespeare and a host of other poets have written. That old music was the simple note of the shepherd's reed pipe.

From classical times onwards poetic genius has celebrated the artless lay of the rustic musician making melody in the fields and along the hillside swards, and the heroes of these deathless poems had no such resources as our young adventurers into the rural wilds possess; they knew nothing of piano accordion, portable wireless, or gramophone. Each shepherd cut and fashioned his own pipes, and played such tunes as he knew or invented.

It seemed to observers an art so delightful that it became the fashion to regard the performers as musicians and poets. Hence

the poets themselves were called shepherds. Kit Marlowe having died, for instance, Shakespeare wrote of him as "Dead shepherd"; and an immortal literature grew up around the shepherds and their lowly pipes piping in the wilds.

Yet the true purpose of the performers was far removed from that ascribed by the poets to the music and its makers. It was an ancient belief, adopted by the Greeks and Romans, that the playing of shepherds' pipes rendered the sheep quiet and contented, and so made them fatten more quickly. The true ideal of the piping shepherds was not high harmony or romantic poesy, but abundant fleeces, plump and profitable sheep.

Modern lads and lasses, with their accordions and their community singing in camp, have no thoughts of sheep or of profit, save for the profit that comes from content—the content that comes from a day well spent and suitably ended, in harmony. And who would have it otherwise? Is it not Merrie England again?

## Kenya Honours a Pioneer

NAIROBI, the bustling and prosperous capital of Kenya, has a new central square, and in the middle of it there is to be a seated statue of Lord Delamere, 12 feet high, sculptured by Lady Kennet, whose first husband was Captain Scott of Antarctic fame.

Lady Kennet showed the C.N. a small bronze model of the big work, which is already on its way to East Africa. An official invitation has been sent to Lady Kennet to go out to Nairobi for its unveiling, and perhaps she will do so.

Kenya, one of our finest farming colonies, is a twentieth-century creation. Forty years ago its settlement and prosperity were only beginning, and it was the third Lord Delamere who led the way in its development.

He was a remarkable man, of dominating personality, not always easy to get on with, and not always right in his ideas of government and management of the people. But he was, nevertheless, devoted to this East African country where he spent

so much of his life, and in his efforts for it was shrewd and tireless and full of force and unflagging courage.

Lord Delamere championed the cause of the British settlers at a time when their difficulties and disappointments were greatest. He fought what he felt to be misunderstanding on the part of the Colonial Office and the local authorities. He thought people at home did not realise the importance of British East Africa and the pluck and self-sacrifice of its colonists.

In the end he triumphed over many obstacles; and today, in Kenya's prosperity, his memory is being honoured.

### SILVER PHANTOM

THE British cruiser Aurora, which has just been handed over to the Chinese Navy, was such a terror to the Italians during the war that they named her "The Silver Phantom." She once sank eight ships in an enemy convoy, and during her war service steamed over 201,000 miles and fired 10,000 shells.

## A Happy Land of Peace and Plenty

SWISS citizens living abroad, cut off for six years from their homeland and now at last returning to see their families, are themselves amazed, not only at the restfulness and comfort of their native country, but at the things that are done for those in need by the Government.

One of these returning exiles told the C.N. the other day of his own experiences. He had been away for ten years, working in London. He went back home for a short visit to find that if he had been in want through the war, which fortunately was not the case, he would have lacked nothing to set him on his feet again.

Some of his fellow-citizens, caught in Germany, France, the Low Countries, Poland, or the Balkans, were not so lucky. For these the moment they arrived the Swiss Government offered the finest medical and hospital care if they were sick. If not, the Government paid their fares to their home town or village, found them a furnished flat or little house, found them a job, and offered them enough ready money to tide them over immediate difficulties. If they wished to repay this money from their first wages or salary they could do so.

But the first thing was that they should be set on their feet again, to begin a new life without troubles after all they had endured. There are only about four million people in little Switzerland. But what happy people they must be!

### A Queer Cupful



At six weeks, Barbara, the first Senegal Bush Baby (Galago) born at the London Zoo, is still small enough to hide in a teacup.

### JUST A MISPRINT

AT a civic farewell gathering to the Governor General of New Zealand, Sir Cyril Newall, his Excellency referred to a classic misprint which appeared in a New Zealand newspaper five years ago. Sir Cyril Newall had said that when he was coming to the Dominion he intended to visit every "nook and cranny" of the country. One newspaper, however, quoted him as saying he would visit every "cook and granny." "Well, we have seen a good many of them, and I can say that they are very good cooks and very delightful grannies," he added.

## The EDITOR'S TABLE

### JUST A YEAR AGO

WE come on May 8 to a triumphant anniversary in the story of our people and in the history of the world's freedom. Just twelve months ago Germany surrendered to the Allies, and the forces of liberation broke into the imprisoned lands of Europe, bringing fresh hope to multitudes.

It was the end of six years of "toil, sweat, and tears" to re-establish honour, truth, and the love of simple, gracious things in the life of everyone born into the world. "Victory is not a name strong enough for such a scene," said Lord Nelson at the Battle of the Nile when he turned back the forces of Napoleon from their threat to the world. Nor is the name Victory alone strong enough for all the memories which VE Day summons up; for VE Day was Deliverance Day—the Day when the world was given another chance to be the fair and lovely place it was intended to be.

BUT VE Day was the signal to look forward, not backward. Many of war's conditions are still with us—rationing, shortages, famine, and controls. Their presence is a reminder of the high price we are still paying for the Deliverance, and a reminder that a stiff, hard fight is still before us.

There is, however, no need to despair. All the matchless energy of mind and body which was spent so liberally in the days of war is still available in days of peace, and we have now to show that Peace has her victories no less renowned than war. Young men and women are pouring back into our national life eager to be of service, and knowing well that selfishness provides none of the prizes in life. We must give them their chance to build anew where war destroyed.

IT was VE Day that made possible the plans which our nation is now shaping for the betterment of everyone. The anniversary of that great day of deliverance is therefore a renewal of the call to hard work, enthusiastic service, and belief in the nobility of the common man. We are in the fight for the future now just as much as we were when the guns of war were thundering.

Our salute to VE Day and the future, however, cannot be complete without a remembrance of the price which was paid by those who gallantly defended our freedom and so gave our generation a new chance. Many of them are not here with us to build for the future, but the inspiration of their sacrifice is a new and precious heritage.

BRITAIN proved during the war that trust in "the decent things of life" was the main-spring of her people, and the C.N. believes that that same spirit lives on in Britain's youth today.

## English Centre of the World

STRATFORD-ON-AVON is near the geographical centre of England, and Sir Malcolm Robertson pleaded that it should become also the English centre of the world when he delivered the Festival Oration on Shakespeare's birthday.

Every nation, said Sir Malcolm, needed to enter upon a deliberate policy of self-explanation, and for this purpose there was no clearer outlook on English life than that given by Shakespeare.

The spirit of Shakespeare, and the spirit of England, he went on, should be studied and assimilated in the Bard's own birthplace and spiritual home, and his plays, particularly his historical plays, should be staged there almost all the year round.

The lovely town by the Avon would be ideal as a centre typifying England's outlook, and we hope that Sir Malcolm Robertson's plea will bear fruit.

### May Weather-Lore

THE old saw which advises the optimist not to cast his clouts until May is out, is not the only homely proverb which relates to the merry month of May. Here are a few more:

*Be it weal or be it woe,  
Beans blow before May doth go.*

*A swarm of bees in May  
Is worth a load of hay.*

*Shear sheep in May  
And shear them away.*

*Mist in May, and heat in June,  
Make the harvest right soon.*

Bearing in mind the World's urgent need for an early and abundant harvest, the C.N. hopes that this year the mists of May will be followed by a really hot June.

## Under the E



PETER PUCK  
WANTS TO KNOW

If a lighthouse is a portable building

A MAN said he found his suit in holes. Better than finding holes in his suit.

A CERTAIN M.P. always speaks without notes. So cannot strike a cheerful one.

THERE is much to be said for the all-electric house. It is a current topic.

A NEW comedian is said to be a coming man. Makes things go.

Do blue-eyed people make good photographs? The answer is in the negative.

A FAMOUS artist paints birds. Some don't need it.

It is rude to pull faces. Especially other people's.



## MUTUAL

IN his address to the Conference of the National Union of Teachers Mr Ralph Morley, M.P., said that as part of their training for Democracy school-children should have visits from the postman, the policeman, the butcher, the chimney sweep, and the bus conductor, who would talk about their lives and work.

Not only the children, we suspect, would learn something new. The visitors would have an opportunity most parents would appreciate, for the child in school is not necessarily the same child at home.

## The Undelivered Letter

A STRANGE, unfinished story has come to light as the result of the discovery of an unopened letter in the niche of the wall of an old house at Faversham in Kent.

This letter was written in 1803; two years before the battle of Trafalgar, and was sent by a sailor to his mother asking her to send £6 to enable him to get away from the ship on which he was serving, and transfer to another ship. Evidently such a practice prevailed in those days!

Well, the sailor's mother never received the SOS from her son at sea, and whether the sailor ever got his transfer or not we shall never know. What we can be certain of, knowing mothers, is that had the letter reached her somehow or other, the sailor's mother would have sent him the money he needed, though it was a tidy sum then.

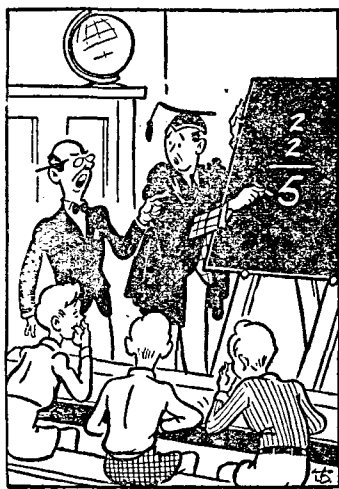
## JUST AN IDEA

As John Morley wrote, It is not enough to do good; one must do it in the right way.

## litor's Table

THE light on Big Ben indicates that the House of Commons is sitting. It goes out when the members do.

A VISITOR to New York found it too noisy. Even its newspapers were full of reports.



School Clerks to Aid Teachers, says a newspaper headline.

But not, we think, as our artist suggests.

## THINGS SAID

CHILDREN have rights.

Judge Fraser Harrison

EAT less: waist less!

American food-saving slogan

ONE of the great characteristics of the people of this country is their charity to those in need and to those who are suffering.

Cardinal Griffin

THERE was your tea party at Boston, and nearly two years ago there was our joint breakfast party on the Beaches of Normandy.

Lord Halifax to American Pilgrims

I HOPE before long to have letters, posted in London, delivered within 24 hours to towns on the Eastern seaboard of the United States.

The Postmaster-General

CONTRARY to some people's ideas a bishop does not spend all his time in his palace and his cathedral.

Bishop of Southwark

## The Scottish Shorter Catechism

AT a recent meeting of Edinburgh Education Committee it was pointed out that few schools in Scotland now include the Shorter Catechism in their religious instruction.

Since 1648 when the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland approved it for juvenile religious education the Catechism has played a great part in moulding the religious beliefs of generations of Scots.

Now the Shorter Catechism, long in universal use among Presbyterians, has fallen into disuse in Scotland's schools. The language in which it is framed is considered too difficult for young minds. But there is nothing yet of equal value to take its place. Clearly there is room for a statement of religious doctrines expressed in language that is clear and simple enough to be understood by school children, but losing nothing of the greatness of that Catechism which went to the making of a David Livingstone.

## THE CALL OF SPRING

ALL Nature seems at work, slugs leave their lair, The bees are stirring, birds are on the wing, And winter, slumbering in the open air Wears on his smiling face a dream of spring. Coleridge

## Nature's Meaning

THE tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the others only a green thing which stands in the way. Some see Nature all ridicule and deformity, and by these I shall not regulate my proportions; and some scarce see Nature at all. But to the eyes of the man of imagination Nature is Imagination itself. As a man is, so he sees.

William Blake

## Giving the Train the Slip

THE Great Western Railway has again brought into service "slip" coaches by means of which the back coaches of an express can, with perfect safety, "give the slip" to the rest of the train and so stop at an intermediate station through which the rest of the express passes at speed.

These slip coaches can carry as many as 200 passengers. They are attached to the train by a special type of coupling hook, and as the express reaches a certain point near the station where the slip coaches are to stop, the guard of the slips pulls back a lever in his compartment which allows the coupling hook to drop and also sets in motion a vacuum brake so that the slip coaches begin to slow down. When they reach the station platform the guard stops them altogether. To warn railway workers on the line of the slip coaches' silent approach, the guard works a bell with his foot.

It is a splendid way of speeding up rail traffic and the GWR is thought to be the first railway in Europe to operate these slip coaches since the war.

## Trumpeters All



The family of Mr H. Birch, wife and three daughters, are expert trumpeters. Mr Birch was for 16 years principal trumpeter of the Grenadier Guards.

## ROVER SQUIRES

UNDER a new plan for Rover Scouts, young men on joining, who must be at least 17½ years of age, become "Squires" while they are on probation. During this period they must pass certain tests, among which is a cross-country journey of 18 miles or more with another Rover on which they sleep in the open for one night, the Squire providing food and cooking for both.

If the Squire passes his tests satisfactorily he can come up for investiture as a Rover Scout and thus enter the Training Stage. Among his other activities while training, the new Rover Scout undertakes the study of one or more subjects coming under the general headings of World Affairs, National Affairs, Cultural Subjects, Scoutcraft, Handicrafts, Hobbies, and Sports. This training period lasts about three years and after it the Rover becomes a Senior.

Thus will the Rover Scouts train our young men to play a valuable part in the life of the community.

## GREENWICH MOVING TO SUSSEX

GREENWICH OBSERVATORY, famed all over the world, is to move into the country. Fog, smoke, and the bright lights of the city have long made astronomical work difficult, and a suitable new home has at last been found at Hurstmonceux in Sussex. Greenwich will, however, continue to be the centre of the world's time system, for it stands on the meridian.

With the passing of Greenwich Observatory from its midst, London will lose an historic institution. The earliest building of its kind in England, it is said to have been designed by Christopher Wren; and it was certainly founded under Wren's influence in the time of scientifically-minded King Charles the Second.

## Inexpensive Building

Much economy was observed in its building. Stone was used from old Greenwich Castle, on whose site the observatory stands; the bricks, iron, and lead came from a demolished part of Tilbury; and the timber from a gatehouse of the Tower of London. And to match this economy, the King paid his first Astronomer-Royal, John Flamsteed, the princely salary of £100 a year, out of which he was to pay his assistants and buy his scientific instruments.

It will be seen, therefore, that Greenwich Observatory has a history going back for nearly 300 years. But its new home is older, a magnificent legacy from the 15th century and one of the most picturesque buildings in all picturesque Sussex.

Hurstmonceux Castle was begun about 1446, its builder being Sir Roger Fiennes, Lord Dacre, who had been one of Henry the Fifth's happy band at Agincourt. It was said there was no brick structure to equal

it in all England, and a splendid sight it was, and still is, some 200 feet square with an embattled tower at each corner of its lofty walls, and a noble gatehouse capped by round towers 84 feet high.

As is the way of most castles, Hurstmonceux fell into ruin, and in the 18th century many of its stones went into the building of Hurstmonceux Place, famous as the home of the devout brothers Augustus and Julius Hare, authors of Guesses at Truth, and other works.

The castle remained a ruin until our own century—a mere shell, although a very handsome shell. Then it was restored by Claude Lowther, M.P., a gallant soldier who had served his country during the South African War and was, indeed, recommended for the V.C.

## A Monument of Beauty

In restoring Hurstmonceux Colonel Lowther again did noble service for his country. He died in 1929 and they buried him in the village church close by, where a tablet records how he found the castle a ruin and left it a monument of beauty.

Hurstmonceux Castle stands today proudly as ever, a majestic fragment of medieval England, with its mellow brick walls rising serene above the moat, ready to begin another chapter in its long and chequered story.

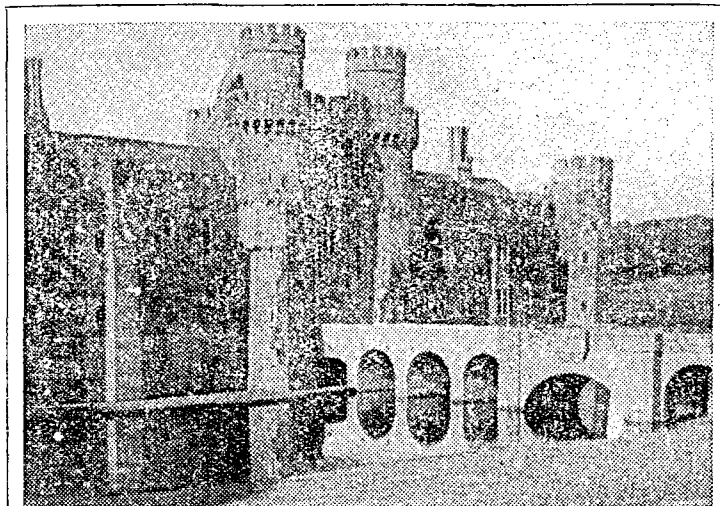
## ARRESTING THE PASSING CLOUDS

ON the screen of the picture theatre we may presently see a moving skyscape, with all its passing clouds. The film that has been made is a continuous record of the sky from dawn to sunset.

When projected at the normal rate it will show the changes that have taken place in twelve daylight hours. It can, if speeded up, show them in half an hour; or reveal sections, if need be, in half a minute. So, for example, we may see the roseate clouds

of early dawn, assembling, changing, disappearing.

We shall be able to watch the cumulus clouds mounting up like cauliflowers; or the feathers and ripples of the cirrus as the winds of the upper air shape them. The weather experts will be able to mark the changes and draw conclusions from them. Others, like the readers of the CN who are their own forecasters, will put aside all else to watch delightedly the pageantry of the sky.



THIS ENGLAND

The 500-year-old Hurstmonceux Castle in East Sussex



## The Power of the Pedal



Three Stages to the Modern Bicycle—The Hobby Horse, invented in 1816 by Drais von Sauerbronn; a machine propelled by a hand lever, invented in 1821 by Louis Gompertz; and the first pedal cycle, invented in 1839 by Kirkpatrick MacMillan.

MILLIONS of folk who today enjoy the healthy sport of cycling will applaud the laying of a laurel wreath on Sunday, May 19, on the grave of Kirkpatrick MacMillan, who invented the pedal cycle. A memorial tablet is also being unveiled on the wall of the old smithy at Courthill, near Dumfries, where in 1839 MacMillan built his first bicycle. But for the war, this ceremony would have taken place in September 1939.

MacMillan would have been amazed if he could have seen some of the ingenious uses to which his invention has since been put.

A London cyclist used to ride his bicycle on the sea and on the River Thames. He had fitted a propeller at the rear of the machine, worked by the pedals, and there were floats on either side. A Colchester man built a paddle-boat from a bicycle and an old rowing-boat. He used to cruise up and down the Essex rivers by sitting in the boat and rotating the pedals which were connected with revolving paddles.

One enthusiast just before the war tried to fly with a bicycle which he had fitted with a propeller, mainplanes, and a tail-plane!

But long before that, Charles Blondin, the famous French

tight-rope walker, made the nearest approach to cycling in the air. He used to ride a bicycle along a 400-foot rope stretched across the Agricultural Hall at Islington. The handlebars were fixed, and Blondin kept his balance solely by carrying a long horizontal pole as he traversed the rope.

A modern bicycle's lamps are lighted by current generated by the travelling machine itself. But many settlers in remote parts of Australia and elsewhere have their stationary bicycles to thank for keeping them in touch with the outside world. By jacking-up their machines and pedalling hard, current is generated for operating their wireless sets, and for other purposes.

Tandem bicycles were first built in 1884. The old song about Daisy Bell and the bicycle made for two may have had its origin in an amusing incident in 1897 when a bridegroom and his bride rode away from the church on a cycle for two.

None of these adaptations of the bicycle, however, would have amazed old Kirkpatrick MacMillan more than a remarkable feat performed in 1928 by L. Vanderstuyft. Travelling on a track, and paced by a motor, he covered in one hour, the astonishing distance of 76 miles 504 yards!

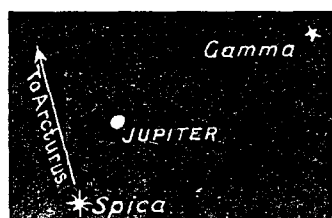
## THE TWO MIGHTY SUNS OF SPICA

By the C.N. Astronomer

VENUS may now be seen as a splendid Evening Star in the western sky after sunset. She does not set until about 11 p.m. Summer Time, and later week by week. Venus is coming nearer, and will in consequence appear brighter during the summer months; at present she is about 140 million miles away, but in a month's time this will be reduced to 125 million miles.

Jupiter, apparently the rival of Venus in brilliancy, is high in the south-east in the early evening, but must not be mistaken for the golden Arcturus, which is still higher and more to the left or east. Jupiter appears not nearly so bright as Venus although, as seen telescopically, Jupiter presents an apparent diameter nearly four times greater than the gibbous disc of Venus. His much greater distance, at present 419,500,000 miles, accounts for Jupiter's lesser brilliance, though his actual diameter is 11 times that of Venus.

The bright star Spica Virginis may be seen apparently a little way below Jupiter—actually the distance is terrific and cannot be intelligently expressed in miles. But we can say that



whereas the light from Jupiter's present position takes 39 minutes to reach us, the light takes 233 years to reach us from Spica.

This is the brightest star in the constellation of Virgo, the Virgin, that symbolises the mythological goddess of agricultural fertility and the harvest, the Sun being in that constellation at harvest-time. The star Spica represents some ears of corn which the Virgin is represented as holding in her hand. The ancients, who imagined and created these symbolisms, had no idea that Spica was composed of two bodies, nor that these grand and colossal super-heated suns radiate about 1500 times as much light and heat as our Sun.

### Tornadoes of Flame

With surface temperatures averaging about 22,000 degrees centigrade, these great suns are highly gaseous and enveloped chiefly in helium in tumultuous tornadoes of flame, the whole of each sun whirling round a central point of gravity between them, in only four days.

These great suns of Spica Virginis are calculated to possess diameters of between eight million and 12 million miles, yet so highly rarefied are the super-heated elements composing them that the amount of material in these suns is not proportionately greater than that of our Sun. Long ages hence these great suns of Spica will have radiated themselves away until they will be bodies not very much larger than our Sun. Meanwhile, they are approaching us at the rate of about 550 miles a minute, so many centuries hence. Spica will appear brighter. G. F. M.



## The Milkman Comes to School

Every morning at the Severn-side village of Deerhurst, Gloucestershire, a milkman brings the children's milk from a nearby farm.

## TENNIS · SWIMMING · FOOTBALL

By the C.N. Sportsman

THIS week is a big one in international sport, with lawn tennis in Paris, swimming in Brussels, and football in London.

The old friendly rivalry between Great Britain and France will be resumed when they meet in the first round of the European Zone of the Davis Cup on May 10 to 12, and Paris is sure to give our tennis team a hearty welcome. As may be expected the standard of play is unlikely to reach the heights attained immediately before the war, and it is very doubtful whether a Fred Perry or Henri Cochet will emerge yet. Great Britain's team, while much is hoped of them in putting up a good fight, are not expected to beat their opponents.

Brussels is preparing to welcome a party of swimmers from this country, and on Saturday and Sunday a gala will be held. The Amateur Swimming Association are renewing the contests with the Royal Brussels Swimming Club, which were a regular feature before the war. There will be ten events, five for men

and five for women. Among the women Miss Gomm of Hammer-smith, who was in the A.T.S. for four years, is something of a veteran in experience, for she has been a champion swimmer for more than 12 years. She was chosen for her country in the 1934 Empire Games when she was only 13 years of age, the youngest ever to have received such an honour. The youngest member of the team going to Brussels is Miss Jean Caplin of Brighton, who is a student in an art school.

England has its last home international football match of the season on Saturday, when Switzerland provide the opposition at Stamford Bridge, London. Here England will be anxious to take revenge for the shock to her prestige at Zurich in 1938, when, in the second meeting between the two countries, Switzerland won. Although the football season has officially ended the F.A. gladly arranged this match as a token of respect for that little European country which did so much for humanity in the darkest days.

## The Lady of the Mercury

THERE will be "sorrow on the sea" when men and boys of the Royal Navy and the Mercantile Marine who were trained in the Mercury, on Hamble river, hear of the death of Beatrice Fry, mother and friend to all of them as they came and went.

The writer recalls a conversation held with a young seaman on board the SS Carmarthen-shire, returning from Hong Kong to England 26 years ago.

"The thing I never forget about Mrs Fry," he said, "was the way she would get up at 5 a.m. on winter mornings and sweep a path in the snow from the Mercury landing-place to the shore buildings. She never asked any discipline or service from us that she was not willing to carry out herself. She was a very wonderful character."

None who knew and loved her will forget her beautiful brow, her clear blue, kindly eyes; the dogs surrounding her, the blue and white check apron she wore so that they could climb up and repose upon her knees whenever they were so minded. Archie,

a golden spaniel, was the last of these to comfort and companion her in the place of the many who were gone, when at last her long life of service drew to its close. She died in the dawn of St George's Day, and the writer recalls some words she read in the Daily Telegraph on its eve:

"What cares he for the road, the pain, the trouble and the sickness who has St George for his friend and Christ for his companion?"

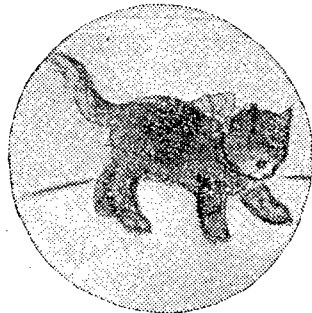
### NOT TO LET

A LIFE-LONG bird-watcher has related how he once observed a pair of house-martins carefully building up one of their peculiar nests shaped like a flower-pot. The martins were about to occupy it when a cheeky sparrow hopped inside and settled down.

The rightful tenants then appealed to a colony of martins close at hand. Large numbers visited a muddy pond, and, picking up pieces of mud in their beaks, plastered the top of the nest until they had completely imprisoned the intruding sparrow.

## BEDTIME CORNER

### FAVOURITES ALL



BABY's pet is a Koala bear, Nan's, a doll, of course, While Timmy loves his "nelefun," And Jim his rocking horse. Mine's live and warm and cuddlesome— The very nicest toy— For he's a lovely pussycat, And his name is Dusty Boy.

### The Boy With Four Eyes

THERE was once a Hindu boy who was very vain and wished to be different from anyone else in order that he would be talked about and

pointed out by the people of his village.

And so he prayed to the little stone god in the corner of his room that he might have a pair of eyes put into the back of his head, making it possible for him to see all that was going on behind as well as in front of him.

At last, one morning when he got up, he discovered that his wish had been granted; he could see both ways. He could hardly contain himself for joy and pride, but when he went out and made himself known, the first people who saw him ran down the street shouting out: "A demon has come among us," and a large crowd quickly gathered to see this strange sight.

Then one and all, believing that an evil spirit did possess this boy, picked up stones and drove him out of the village, and he was never seen again.

It is foolish to try to be superior to others.

### EVENING PRAYER

ERE the light of day departs,  
Lodge, O Saviour, in our hearts;  
Where the spirit welcomes Thee,  
There the night can never be.



## Seekers After Gold

THE world has been astonished by the richness of a gold reef discovered near Odendaalsrust, south of the Vaal River, in the Orange Free State. Tests reveal ten times as much gold as the previous best from drillings made in the Free State.

It will be some time before the shafts which are to be sunk come into full working order and, until then, the extent of the gold deposits will not be known; but the promise is high.

The discovery of gold in extensive quantities leads to big developments, and Odendaalsrust is likely soon to be a big township, with houses for the workers, shops, railways, and irrigation schemes. That is how Johannesburg grew.

Several miles north of this place, which gives the promise of more wealth for South Africa, the richest goldfield in the world was discovered in 1884 in the Transvaal district known as the Rand. The lucky finder was Frederick Struben, who hit upon a rich vein of gold about 12 miles west of Johannesburg. A year later the Main Reef was found, and that led to the development of the Rand gold mines, which have produced something like a half of the world's gold.

But though the new discovery in the Orange Free State is impressive in the magnitude of the riches promised, it lacks anything of the intense drama, the surprise, the humour, and the tragedy that have been associated with earlier revelations of such wealth in other lands.

In the early days of Californian gold-seeking two men, named Martin and Flower, sought un-

successfully until Flower died of want and exhaustion. In digging a grave for his dead companion Martin struck gold. His grave-making pick revealed a nugget weighing 151 pounds, worth over £7000. Pursuit of a rabbit to its burrow led to the finding of another mine; an accidental explosion of dynamite brought to light gold that became famous as the Hualipi mine in Arizona; while an earthen oven, dug to cook meat for a miner's dinner, revealed wealth to be afterwards won from the rich Trojan mine in Calaveras County, California.

### The Boy and the Crow

Boys cannot be kept out of ventures such as these. It was a Western Australian boy, temporarily engaged in bird-scaring, who, picking up a stone, as he thought, to throw at a trespassing crow, found his projectile extraordinarily heavy. The "stone" proved to be richly charged with gold. So someone on the spot wired the glad news to the Governor of the State. At least, he began a communication on the subject, but, as the goldfield story runs, when he had written "A boy picked up a stone to throw at a crow," his excitement overcame him, and he sent the message incomplete as it was—just those words and no more. The Governor, perplexed and amused, replied, "What happened to the crow?" The final answer was the creation, from that chance find, of the Pilbarrow goldfield undertaking ranging over thousands of square miles.

### FARMERS OF THE FUTURE

WELL over 600 boys will be placed on Britain's farms this year under the YMCA British Boys for British Farms training scheme.

Since it was started 13 years ago the scheme has enabled 5859 boys to start a career in agriculture, 70 per cent of whom remain on the farms. Training centres are operating at Burscough, Lancashire; Hame Green, Bristol; Longford, Derby, and Clifford Chambers, Warwick.

The Ministry of Agriculture pays half the cost of the training and equipment.

## New Form of Government For France

THIS week French men and women have gone to the polls to decide what form the government of their country shall take; a referendum has been held on France's future Constitution.

Before the war France's government, as a Republic, consisted of a President, Ministers, a Senate, and a Chamber of Deputies; somewhat similar to our King, Cabinet, House of Lords, and House of Commons. That Republic came to an end in 1940 with the conquest of France by Hitler and the setting up of Marshal Pétain virtually as a dictator.

Last autumn a general election for a Constituent Assembly was held in a liberated France, and part of the duty of this Assembly was to draw up a new Constitution for France, to be submitted

## A MUSICIAN'S WINDOW

IN the 70's of last century a little boy used to go regularly to the ancient church of St Sepulchre in Holborn. It was the church where he had been christened, and his father was principal tenor in the choir.

He was a boy with a very ordinary sort of name, but he was no ordinary boy; and he made his name immortal not only in the annals of that London church but in the annals of English music. His name was Henry Wood.

Long after he had become world-famous, Sir Henry Wood wrote his autobiography, and in it he recalled his memories of those early days at St Sepulchre's. He recalled the splendid organ, with the choir sitting on either side, and how excited he and his mother used to be when his father sang a tenor solo.

Sir Henry Wood remembered how he had sat in the organ loft when he was seven, and how at ten he had practised on that same organ; and he recalled with affection the little Cockney organ-blower, whose only name was Ky-legs, bestowed on him because his knock-knees formed a letter K.

### His Love of Music

In those early days Sir Henry Wood cultivated that love of music which was to shape his life, to lead him forward to a career in which he was to do so much to bring music into the lives of others.

Sir Henry Wood died in 1944, mourned by musicians and music-lovers everywhere, and his ashes were laid to rest in the church of his boyhood. Now, above that resting-place, musicians and music-lovers have dedicated a window in his memory. It shows St Cecilia, patron saint of music, with the composers Bach, Handel, Purcell, and Byrd. In one panel young Henry Wood is playing the church organ, and in another he is conducting a Prom Concert.

The familiar red carnation buttonhole is there too; and in a medallion below it is this inscription by John Masefield:

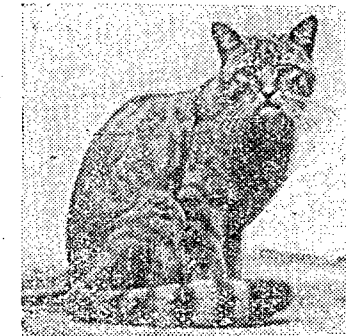
*At this man's hand a million hearers caught  
An echo of the Music without flaw  
Whose endless joy is Heaven's O, Music Lovers, bless him in your thought.*

## More Wild Cats

IN the early part of this century it was considered that the true Wild Cat (*Felis catus*) was almost extinct in many parts of Scotland. But today there is a very different tale to tell.

It is said that this interesting animal is to be found in considerable numbers in the Highlands today, some observers declaring that there may be 10 times as many as there were in 1914.

The Wild Cat lives in almost inaccessible strongholds through-



dant whiskers. Some years ago a fine specimen of the animal was shot which measured three feet ten inches from nose to tip of tail. The animal is yellowish-grey in colour with dark stripes, and has cross bands on the legs. Wild Cats are extremely savage in disposition, but fortunately they are extremely shy and, during the day at any rate, they remain in the loneliest parts, away from mankind.

Stories of Wild Cats in England usually concern domestic cats that have taken to the woods. Probably the last English Wild Cat to be seen was one shot in the Lake District just about a hundred years ago. In the Middle Ages Wild Cats were as common in England as they are in the woods of Europe today.

### MOLIÈRE IN KISWAHILI

WHO would have dreamed a few years ago that a play by Molière, the famous French playwright of the seventeenth century, would be broadcast to East African natives in their own Kiswahili language? Yet it has happened.

A lawyer of Dar-es-Salaam has translated The Doctor In Spite of Himself, one of Molière's most subtle comedies, and it is being broadcast in weekly instalments by an all-African cast of soldier actors from Nairobi.

out its ancient haunts from Loch Lomond in the west to Glencaigles in the east. From their retreats the creatures come out, chiefly at night, and make their way to hen coops, often travelling miles to do so. Into these they will often force their way through barriers which the poultry-owners believe to be adequate protection and kill, or carry away, many of the birds.

The real Wild Cat is stronger and larger than the House Cat; it has a stouter head, a shorter and thicker tail, and very abun-

### MOTHER SAYS...

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# THE BRAN TUB

Jacko Ahoy!



"H, look out there!" came a yell as Jacko and Chimp sailed dreamily down the river. "I wonder what that fellow's shouting about?" murmured Jacko, gazing at a cloud. "I expect he wants someone to look out of a window somewhere," yawned Chimp. Then, crash! The sleepy yachtsmen rammed Brother Adolphus's boat. "But, Adolphus, be reasonable, how could you expect us to see through the sail?" complained Jacko as Adolphus gave them several pieces of his mind.

## WORLD-FAMOUS

THE literary club was drawing up a list of immortal writers for its Discussion Group.

"Don't forget Anon," said a newly-elected and zealous young member. "Some of his stuff is very fine."

## SHUTTLE SERVICE

THERE was a young lady of Spain  
Who went for a ride in a train  
To the seaside and back,  
Then turned on her track,  
And went forwards and back-  
wards again.

## THE EAST END MISSION

which works in Stepney, the district which has been given building priority in the L.C.C. plans for a better London "because conditions are outstandingly prevalent."  
**NEEDS YOUR HELP.**  
Please share in our work of building Christian character.  
The Rev. RONALD F. W. BOLLOM, Supt.,  
THE EAST END MISSION (Founded 1885), Bromley Street, Commercial Road, Stepney, E.1.



ZONING  
RESTRICTIONS  
REMOVED

**BASSETT'S**  
Original  
LIQUORICE  
ALLSORTS

## PUZZLE LIMERICK

THERE was an old sheep dog  
called Rover  
Whose sheep flock . . . . . over  
the clover,  
So he let them at will,  
Then turned them down hill,  
And returned with his . . . . .  
back to . . . . .

The missing words are all spelt with the same letters arranged in different order. What are they?

Answer next week

## Catch a Friend This Way

Put a low stool up against the wall. Tell a friend to stand with feet together, twice the width of the stool from the wall and, with one hand on each side of it, lift the stool up slightly, and at the same time lean his head against the wall.

Then tell him to try to rise steadily upright without moving the feet or jerking the body and with the stool still in his hands.

Sounds so simple, doesn't it, but attempted as described is quite impossible.

## FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Friends and Foes of the Farmer. The rank grass was honeycombed with tunnels and runways.

"Field - voles" work," said Farmer Gray in reply to Don's inquiries. "They tunnel beneath the ground, too, in the same manner. Field-voles, or Short-tailed Field-mice, are attractive little creatures. Their fur is reddish-brown above, fading to smoky white below. They possess the round, blunt nose typical of Voles. For food they rely mainly on greenstuff, and cause great havoc to various crops. They multiply so rapidly that sometimes plagues of Field-voles occur. Fortunately, stoats, weasels, and birds of prey destroy vast numbers, thus keeping the Voles in check."

## Meals Without End

TAKING the first city holiday of his life, the old countryman was astonished on reaching his hotel bedroom to read the meals notice—breakfast, 7—11, lunch, 12—3, dinner 6—9.

"Goodness," he exclaimed, "I shall never find time to see London."

## Other Worlds

IN the evening Mars, Saturn, and Venus are in the west, Venus being very low, and Jupiter is in the south-east. The picture shows the moon as it may be seen at 8.30.

BST, on Thursday evening, May 9.

## The Children's Hour

BBC programmes from Wednesday, May 8, to Tuesday, May 14.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 The Princess With Green Fingers. 5.40 Talk by "Observer." Midland, 5.0 Learn to Swim the Crawl; What's on in Our Village. North, 5.0 Nursery Sing-song. 5.15 Dobson and Young. Welsh, 5.0 The Gadabout Goose; Sea Music; All in the Day's Work.

THURSDAY, 5.0 The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin. 5.10 The Prince and the Pauper (Part 3). North, 5.0 Brendon Chase (Part 4).

FRIDAY, 5.0 Civil Flying Today. North, 5.0 Wandering with Nomad; You Wanted to Know. Scottish, 5.0 Travellers' Tale No 2. Nature's Garden.

SATURDAY, 5.0 Songtime. 5.15 The Mysterious Mr Simister (Part 3). West, 5.0 The Dawn Chorus; Westward Ho! (Part 3).

SUNDAY, 5.0 Sir Thomas More. North, 5.0 The Bartered Bride—an opera.

MONDAY, 5.0 Said the Cat to the Dog (No 16). 5.40 Film Talk. Midland, 5.0 Bird Songs in May. North, 5.0 The Week's programmes; Nursery Sing-song; Your Own Ideas. Scottish, 5.0 The Hutmans; Your Own Ideas.

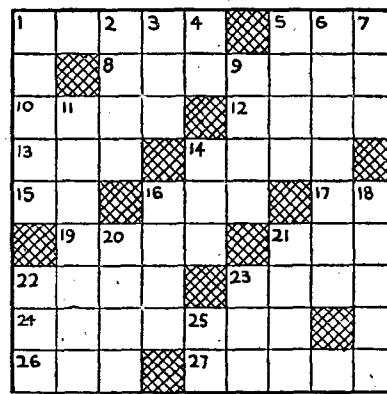
TUESDAY, 5.0 The Bear Garden. 5.25 Nature Parliament. Northern Ireland, 5.0 Ulster Magazine. Scottish, 5.0 Nursery Rhymes and a Story; Reading of Two Scottish Ballads.

## Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 A town's chief magistrate. 5 A watering-place. 8 A speech made in public. 10 To carry off. 12 To prepare for publication. 13 A hint on which a player acts. 14 Perceived. 15 Home Guard. 16 Barrier built across a stream. 17 Denoting motion toward a place. 19 Flesh food. 21 Leguminous plant. 22 A bench. 23 Tunes. 24 An understanding between nations. 26 Girls in khaki. 27 Conditions.

Reading Down. 1 An equal. 2 A burden. 3 A mineral consisting of metal and other substances. 4 Royal Academy. 5 A margin. 6 A gun dog. 7 An emmet. 9 Abound. 11 To increase. 14 Reposed. 16 Fruit from a palm. 18 A desert haven. 20 Devours. 21 A jetty. 22 The ocean. 23 Consumed. 25 New Testament.

Asterisks indicate abbreviations. Answer next week



## SUPREME

EACH classroom has a queen or king.  
It has no life, the poor old thing.  
In saying this I am no fooler.  
Each classroom has, of course, its ruler.

## Advance Payment

YOUR wage will be thirty shillings a week for the first year, then rising to two pounds if you are satisfactory.  
Excuse me, but I'll start right away with the second year.

## THE THREE MUSTARDEERS with the MAGIC STONE OF KASSIM, meet



MARY turned the pages of a book she had taken from the library shelf. "It's a shame they hanged highwaymen," she said. "They were so romantic." "That's what you think," replied Roger. "But if you'd like to see for yourself, let's see what the Stone of Kassim can show us." "Good," replied Jim and Mary. "Then," said Roger gripping the amulet, "we wish to meet a highwayman."

"I say," murmured Mary. "This is a bit frightening." They were standing on a road which ran across a broad heath, a milestone read "Islington 1 mile." Jim blinked as he looked at Roger and Mary, and down at his own clothes. "We look as though we've stepped from an eighteenth century painting," he cried. Nearby was a copse, and from it they heard the champing of a horse's bit. They crept quickly towards it, and saw something that gave them, particularly Mary, a thrill. A man wearing a long ragged multi-caped coat, a battered beaver hat, and high riding boots sat astride a horse. As they watched, he tied a dirty rag across the bottom half of his face. And Mary could not help but feel relief that he had covered such an ugly, brutal mouth and jaw.

Suddenly there was a sound of hoofs, and the Mustardeers saw rolling along the road a handsome coach drawn by four horses. "Now," said Roger to Mary "we'll see the gallantry of your highwaymen." With a bound, the highwayman was on the road, levelling a pistol at the coachman. "Halt!" he yelled. With a curse, the coachman drew his reins. The horses reared, and the coach lurched to a standstill. The coachman reached hastily for a weapon, but the highwayman fired. As the coachman fell, the highwayman slipped his empty pistol into his coat pocket, and, withdrawing another, levelled it at a young man and woman emerging from the coach. "Your money—your jewels, quick!" he snarled. "or do I take 'em from you dead?" The lady swooned. "Dandy Joe!" exclaimed the young man, stepping quickly aside he drew his sword to attack. But Dandy Joe was too quick for him, and a bullet from his pistol smashed the young man's sword-wrist. "Now," again snarled Dandy Joe, "hand over your purse—and her jewels."

Dandy Joe's pistols are empty—he's fired them both," Roger whispered excitedly to Jim. "Come on, this is where we go into action." He crept up to the driving seat, grabbed the coachman's pistol, and with a bound was on the road again. "Get down off your horse!" he yelled, levelling the pistol at Dandy Joe. The highwayman moved as though to dash, but the threat of the pistol weakened his resolve, and he dismounted. "Quick, Mary," Roger said, "get to the nearest tel . . . oh, what's the use? Telephones aren't invented yet. You, sir"—he spoke to the young man from the coach—"can you ride for help while we hold this fellow?" The young man, helped by Jim, mounted Dandy Joe's horse and galloped away. Then Jim grabbed the coachman's long-thonged whip and approached the highwayman. "Down with your hands—behind your back," he ordered. He fastened the highwayman's wrists. "Now down on your knees," he cried. As Dandy Joe knelt, Jim brought the whip-thong round his ankles, and the highwayman was perfectly trusted.

At this moment, the Mustardeers heard galloping of mounted gentlemen coming at the speed of a charge. "Well!" said Roger, "in case we get too badly mixed up, I think we ought to go back—or should I say forward—to the twentieth century. And here's wishing it." As he said this, he gripped the Stone of Kassim, and, back in the library, Mary was still holding the book about highwaymen. "I don't care," she exclaimed, "all highwaymen weren't so brutal as Dandy Joe. And with that name, I'd have thought him so romantic."

SAID JIM: "Well, seeing's believing, as the mother said watching her little boy enjoy his fat meat because there was mustard on it."

THE  
MUSTARDEERS'  
OATH  
We will have mustard whenever we can get it.  
Mustard makes good food taste better.  
We will have Mustard—  
**Colman's Mustard**

